



The Gettysburg Quarterly

Museum Construction Underway, Stream Restoration Nearly Complete

Restoration of Guinn Run, a stream that runs near the site of the park's new Museum and Visitor Center is nearing completion. This is the first of several phases in the construction of the new facilities, which are located near the intersection of Hunt Avenue and Baltimore Pike, a short distance from the park's current Visitor Center.

As restoration of the stream bed corridor comes to an end, the second phase of the project – site development – will be underway by mid-September. This includes installation of access roads, utilities, water and sewer.

continues on page 2

Park, Friends Celebrate the 200th Cannon Carriage Restoration



Volunteer Ed Kemp celebrated his 200th day of volunteering at the park's cannon shop by repainting the 200th cannon carriage.

Peach Orchard Project Begins – 13 More Orchards to Be Planted This Fall

Visitors will see drastic changes at the Sherfy Peach Orchard this fall when the National Park Service, working together with the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg, begins a two-year process to plant a new peach orchard. Planted in 1979, the Sherfy peach trees are declining and many have already died. The trees will be removed—roots and all—in late September. Before new trees can be planted however, a cover crop will be grown at the site for two years to rid the area of harmful nematodes, a parasitic worm that feeds on roots. Cover crops of rapeseed and mustard are an environmentally friendly way to rid the orchard site of nematodes.

In our continuing efforts to bring back missing features on the battlefield that affected the fighting in 1863, the park is also

continues on page 3

On July 12, the park and the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg celebrated restoration of the 200th cannon carriage at the Cannon Carriage Restoration Shop with a brief ceremony for volunteers and the news media. After the ceremony, Vic Gavin guided reporters on a tour of the cannon carriage restoration shop for a detailed look at the process of caring for these 100-year-old, cast-iron treasures. The park has 389 cannon carriages that mark the artillery positions of both armies on the Gettysburg battlefield. Age and exposure to the weather had taken a toll on the carriages and the park began a project to repair and restore every carriage. In order to speed the restoration process, the non-profit Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg rent a facility for the National Park Service where specialists painstakingly repair and rebuild each carriage.

Coincidentally, Ed Kemp, volunteer at the Cannon Shop, celebrated his 200th day of volunteering at the shop on July 12 as well, and park Superintendent John A. Latschar presented him with a certificate of appreciation.



The upper portion of Guinn Run near the new museum site is now restored.



Gettysburg National Military Park, established in 1895, is the site of the great Civil War battle that repulsed the second Confederate invasion of the North. The mission of the National Park Service at Gettysburg is to preserve and protect the resources associated with the battle of Gettysburg and the Soldiers' National Cemetery and provide an understanding of the events that occurred there within the context of American history.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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Museum Construction continued from cover

The stream's natural corridor was disrupted in the 1960s when the Fantasyland Amusement Park re-contoured a portion of the land to build a series of ponds. In this phase of its Campaign to Preserve Gettysburg, the Gettysburg National Battlefield Museum Foundation not only is restoring the natural stream corridor, it also is creating new wetlands at the site.

The third phase of the project – building construction – is expected to begin in late November/early December with work on the foundation, which will occur as site development continues. Exhibit fabrication and installation, the fourth phase, is scheduled to begin in early spring 2006. For more information on the project go to www.gettysburgfoundation.org or www.nps.gov/gett

Cyclorama Program to Close November 21

Gettysburg's Cyclorama program will close to the public on November 21, 2005 to complete the removal and restoration of the painting. Once it is installed in a new environmentally controlled exhibit gallery, the painting will reopen to the public in the fall of 2007, with the opening of the park's new Museum and Visitor Center. The Cyclorama building will also close on November 21 and remain closed throughout the winter, reopening in April 2006. The building will remain open through the spring and summer until mid-November 2006, when it will close for the winter. Stay tuned to the park's web site (www.nps.gov/gett) for additional information and updates.

Gettysburg Battlefield Winter Hours Take Effect November 1

One of the most difficult challenges facing the National Park Service is providing the right balance between preservation of park resources and providing for public enjoyment of a park. The mission of Gettysburg NMP is to preserve and protect the resources associated with the Battle of Gettysburg and the Soldiers' National Cemetery, and provide an understanding of the events that occurred here within the context of American history. Effectively balancing these priorities was the reason that Gettysburg NMP initially proposed modifying battlefield hours from the current 10 p.m. closing time to an earlier closing time. The reasons the change in hours became a high priority were threats to park resources during non-daylight hours, visitor safety, and lack of adequate staffing.

During the public comment period in May 2005, the park received many thoughtful comments about this proposal. Three groups in particular sent especially compelling comments. These groups are local citizens and park neighbors who enjoy the peacefulness and serenity of the park after sunset; school students whose annual class visit to Gettysburg includes an evening of reflection on the battlefield after dark; and families who travel here from great

distances, can only afford to stay a short time and who want to maximize their time on the battlefield by staying past sunset.

After carefully considering these concerns and all of the comments received, the park modified its original proposal to close the park at sunset. The visiting hours will be modified as follows. There will be no change in hours from April 1 through October 31, which means the park will remain open from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily. From November 1 through March 31, the park will be open from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. daily.

The new hours go into effect November 1, 2005. There will be a grace enforcement period from November 1 through December 31, 2005, so we can inform our neighbors and visitors about the change in park operating hours. Beginning January 1, 2006, the park closing hours will be enforced.

"We believe this compromise strikes the right balance between allowing for public enjoyment of the battlefield and preserving battlefield resources for the enjoyment of current and future generations," said Superintendent John A. Latschar.

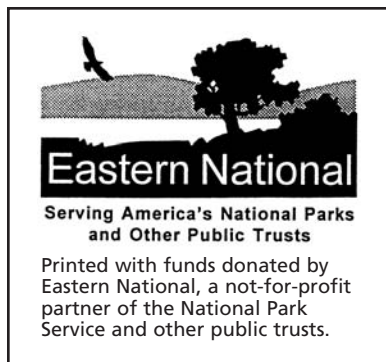
Peach Orchard Project continued from cover

planting 30 acres of orchards this fall at thirteen historic orchard sites at Gettysburg: Rose, Rose North, H. Spangler, Rogers, Codori East, Frey South, McPherson, Forney South, Forney House, Hagey East, Hagey West, G. Weikert North, and G. Weikert South.



These dying trees at the Sherfy Peach Orchard will be replaced during a two-year process that begins this fall.

Send Comments to:
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Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides at Gettysburg makes \$6,000+ donation to the Gettysburg Museum Foundation

Officers of the Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides donated \$6,386 to the Gettysburg National Battlefield Museum Foundation for the Park's new Museum and Visitor Center. Left to right: Gettysburg National Military Park Superintendent John A. Latschar; Foundation Director of Donor Relations Sally McPherson; ALBG President James Hueting; and ALBG Vice President and Liaison to the Museum Foundation Sue Boardman.